The goal of this course is to combine an academic experience with a service-immersion trip to Nicaragua. Enrollment is limited to participants in the Nicaragua service-learning-immersion trip, March 4-12, 2010. This is a Pass-Fail course.

**Requirements:**
1. Attendance at all meetings is required. The class meets every Wednesday from 5:00-6:00 pm.

2. Each student will prepare a 4-page (c. 1000 words) paper on one of the topics below. You must secure approval of your topic from one of the instructors. Due date: April 20 at noon.

3. There are no required exams. Beginning on Jan. 26, each student will be asked to prepare a 7-10 minute presentation and a one-page paper or outline on some aspect of Nicaraguan culture, history, politics, health, education, or related topic.

**Required Readings:**
Various documents as assigned. Please read the assigned material before the class date so that you are able to participate in discussion of the topic.

**THE CLASSROOM IS A NO-CELL-PHONE ZONE. PLEASE TURN OFF ALL THINGS THAT RING, BEEP, OR OTHERWISE MIGHT INTRUDE.**

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**
It is your obligation to be fully aware of the Boston College policies on academic honesty. ANY violation may subject the offender to severe penalty, including course failure. If you are not familiar with the Boston College policy on academic honesty, see the Boston College Bulletin, or on the web at:

http://www.bc.edu/integrity
Below is a "working" syllabus. We may add or delete readings as the semester goes on.

Calendar:

Week 1 - January 19: Introduction

Week 2 January 26: Politics & History (1)
Read: Booth, *Understanding Central America*, Chs. 3 and 5; and Kinzer, *Overthrow*, Ch. 3 and pp. 98-100.

Week 3 - February 2: Health
World Health Organization data on Nicaragua, found at: [http://www.who.int/countries/nic/en/](http://www.who.int/countries/nic/en/)
La información adicional sobre problemas de salud en el perro de Nicaragua considera encontrado en: [http://new.paho.org/nic/](http://new.paho.org/nic/)

Week 4 March 2: Education
Handout: "San Juan Declared Free of Illiteracy"

Week 5 February 9: Mass Movements for Revolution: 1960s-1990s
Handout: Archbishop Oscar Romero, "Last Sermon"

Week 6 February 16: Globalization

Week 7 Feb. 23: Liberation Theology

Week 8 March 4: ¡Vamos a Nicargua!

Week 9 March 16: re-entry

Week 10 March 23:

Week 11 March 30: Religion, Culture and Art

Week 12 April 6: Nicaragua-US relations
Handout: Brentlinger, unpublished work

Week 13 April 13: Nicaraguans in Boston (Guest speaker(s))

Week 14 April 20: EASTER WEEKEND – NO CLASS

Week 15 April 27: Human Rights

Week 16 May 4: LAST DAY OF THE CLASS
Supplementary Readings:


   This is a solid academic work, an excellent introduction to the history and politics of Central America.

* Brown, Timothy C. *Causes of Continuing Conflict in Nicaragua: A View from the Radical Middle*.
  A44-page booklet that offers the interesting (quirky?) thesis that the "revolution" and its aftermath are continuations of struggles among traditional Nicaraguan oligarchic families.

  O'Neill: E98.E85 G65x 1991

Gullette, David. *Gaspar!: A Spanish Poet/Priest in the Nicaraguan Revolution*.
  O'Neill: PQ6657.A6695 Z67 1994
  Gaspar was a parish priest in San Juan del Sur. This small book is an interesting introduction to Gaspar, and to the Sandinista era, especially as it affected the area around San Juan del Sur.


  O'Neill: F1528.M882
* Plunkett, Hazel. *Nicaragua in Focus*, In Focus Guides, 1999.  
A small, short, non-academic introduction to various aspects of Nicaragua—its people, politics, and culture.


O'Neill: F1524.R87 1987


* On reserve in O’Neill Library